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For Immediate Release January 23, 2014 Contact: Michelle Godoy-Morales, 805-654-7749 Richard Newsham, 805-658-4706

City of Ventura Special Event Grants applications are due January 31

Applications are due January 31 for the City of Ventura "Special Event Permit Fund," a grant program open to event organizers staging festivals and events in Ventura that activate public space and increase visitor spending. Online applications are available atwww.cityofventura.net/permits.

The grants cover all, or a portion of, special event permit fees levied by the City of Ventura for special events occurring on public property.

The maximum award amount is \$2,000. Applicants must be a Ventura-based nonprofit or an agency partnering with a Ventura based nonprofit. The funding period is available bi-annually. Events occurring March-August 2014 are eligible for this grant cycle.

"As the City of Ventura continues to emerge from the recent economic downturn, it is imperative that the vitality of the community be celebrated and supported," said Community Partnerships Manager Denise Sindelar.

"Entrepreneurial spirit and innovation should be championed wherever possible and private sector/public agency partnerships should be cultivated," she continued. "The benefits of parades, cultural festivals and special events to Ventura's identity and livelihood are many and quantifiable."

For more information about the applications, contact Special Event Coordinator Michelle Godoy at 654-7749 ormgodoy@citvofventura.net.

This release is available on the City of Ventura website www.cityofventura.net --###--